

Priorities

The Heritage Partnership Program offers towns, non-profit organizations, government agencies and individuals the opportunity to be a part of a vital regional collaborative effort. Extra consideration is given to those projects that provide connections through multiple organizational involvement, that link sites and stories, and that help to create a regional sense of place.

Assistance is available for projects that further the Commission's strategic development goals in the areas of:

HERITAGE INFRASTRUCTURE – signs, trails, exhibits, and other elements which together tell the story of the Valley.

HERITAGE PROGRAMMING – educational programs, living history, arts and crafts, festivals, tourism development and marketing, and other elements which go hand-in-hand with heritage infrastructure.

STRATEGIC DESIGN AND PLANNING – technical assistance to guide new investment that preserves historic resources, helps communities manage growth and conserve natural open space, and responds to opportunities which preserve the Valley's special character.

PRESERVATION & ENHANCEMENT – targeted community revitalization and economic development, building restoration, preservation of historic landscapes, etc.

RIVER RECOVERY & RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT – park development, canoe access sites, river clean-up projects, environmental education, trail development, habitat restoration, land protection, etc.

BLACKSTONE VALLEY INSTITUTE – The Institute is a resource center for bringing citizens, local officials, experts, the business community and others together to respond to critical issues related to the Corridor. Examples of Institute programs include creative approaches to land-use and growth, natural resource protection, community revitalization, coordination of interpretive sites and programs, volunteer development, grant writing, etc.

How to Submit a Proposal

Proposals may be submitted by towns, non-profit organizations, government agencies and individuals. Projects must be within the boundaries of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. Projects funded under this program should demonstrate the ability to provide funding matches, either monetary or in-kind (examples of in-kind matches include non-cash contributions such as: donated volunteer services, employee salaries, supplies and materials, etc.). Additional consideration will be given to those projects that provide a greater non-federal match. All projects must fit within the scope of the Corridor's mission as described in detail in its Cultural Heritage Land Management Plan and amendment, *The Next Ten Years*. Both documents are available on the web or upon request.

RESPONSE FORMAT

The application process consists of two rounds. The preliminary round is a one-page application to be completed either via the web or hard copy. To complete the application via the web, go to www.nps.gov/blac/who/funding.htm. To complete the application and submit by mail, print the application and mail to the Corridor Offices at One Depot Square, Woonsocket, RI 02895. Applications may also be obtained by calling the office at 401-762-0250.

Proposals should be formatted in a 12 pt. font or equivalent size to this type. Applications must be received by 5 pm on March 12, 2004 to qualify. Those projects qualifying through round one will be required to submit a more detailed application for round two.

An informational meeting is scheduled to provide an overview of activities within the Heritage Corridor and opportunities to develop collaborative efforts with others. It is our pleasure to have Dr. John Mullin, Director of the Center for Economic Development at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, participating in this meeting. As many of you know, Dr. Mullin has worked extensively with Blackstone Valley communities on planning issues as well as economic development projects.

The meeting is scheduled for February 26th at the Holiday Express, 194 Fortin Drive, Woonsocket, RI from 3:00-5:30 p.m.

So if you have been actively involved in projects and programs that intersect with the mission and goals of the Corridor Commission... Or perhaps your organization is seeking to build cooperative connections with others in the 24 cities and towns in the Heritage Corridor... This is an opportunity to learn more about the collective goals and possible funding sources.

First Round Application Form

Heritage Partnership Program

PROJECT TITLE:

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION(S):

PRIMARY CONTACT:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

DESCRIBE THE GOAL OF THE PROJECT.

HOW DOES THIS PROJECT ENHANCE CORRIDOR GOALS?

PROVIDE PROJECT SCHEDULE AND BUDGET

FUNDING AND/OR ASSISTANCE REQUESTED FROM COMMISSION.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE CORRIDOR OFFICE BY 5:00PM, MARCH 12, 2004:

John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, One Depot Square, Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895